

**BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MAY 8, 2007 MINUTES**

On Tuesday, May 8, 2007, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 9:40 AM with Commissioners David Schulz, Lewis Stahl and Jim Hart present.

At approximately 9:48 AM, Madison County experienced an Earthquake. All County offices were evacuated.

Lewis Stahl moved to approve the April 24, 2007 minutes with corrections. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Doris Fischer, Staci Beecher, David Clark, Sheri Jarvis, Karen Brown, Ralph Hamler, Vicki Tilstra, Lizz Babcock, Joanne Erdall, MaryAnn O'Malley, Karen Miller, Amy Donovan, Roger Staley, Frank Ford, Jill Steeley, Molly Peterson, Shelly Burke, Peggy Kaatz, Sam Korsmoe, Janie Alt, and Margie Edsall.

**Airports:** The Board discussed contracts for installing power sources for weather stations at both County airports. These contracts were previously approved by the Board but did not include a liability insurance certificate. Upon advice from the County Attorney the Board did not sign the contracts. The Board discussed the status of these contracts in a telephone conversation with Rick Donaldson of Robert Peccia and Associates.

**Resolution of Intent to Adopt the Madison Valley Growth Management Action Plan:** Doris Fischer, Planner, met with the Board to discuss the Madison Valley Growth Management Action Plan. Doris explained that an earlier version of this plan had been presented in a public hearing last August and had met with opposition at that time. The plan has since been revised to address the concerns that were raised during the hearing. The changes do not substantially alter the Plan, but will offer clearer, more widely acceptable language. Per recommendation of the Planner, Jim Hart moved to adopt Resolution 9-2007, a resolution of intention to adopt the Madison Valley Growth Management Action Plan as an Amendment to the Madison County Growth Policy and to schedule a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. on May 30, 2007, in the Courtroom of the Madison County Courthouse in Virginia City. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Public Discussion:** Chris Mumme, Director of Emergency Management, contacted the Board with an update on Earthquake activities.

**Journal Vouchers:** Jim Hart moved to approve Journal Vouchers for the 4/07 accounting period. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Southwest Montana Drug Task Force Agreement:** David Clark met with the Board to discuss an agreement to establish guidelines for a multi-agency task force to address drug related crime. Jim Hart moved to approve the Southwest Montana Drug Task Force State and Local Agreement for Fiscal Year 2008 between the Montana Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation, and the following local governmental jurisdictions: Beaverhead County, Deer Lodge County, Granite County, Jefferson County, Madison County, Powell County, Silver Bow County, and the City of Dillon. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Public Discussion:** Chris Mumme, Director of Emergency Management, contacted the Board to report that there was some damage in Sheridan due to the earthquake; that emergency services were conducting a house to house search for injured persons; and that engineers had been called to inspect the school for damage. Chris stated that he had assumed the role of Incident Commander and requested that a Commissioner be present in Sheridan. David Schulz left the meeting at this point to travel to Sheridan to inspect earthquake damage.

**Gravel Permits:** Lewis Stahl moved to approve the 2007 License Agreement Renewals for Aggregate and Rock Mining Permits G-1085-86 McKee Pit, G-1086-86 Harrison Pit, and G-1358-00 Varney Pit, between the State of Montana, acting through its Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, and Madison County effective until December 31, 2008. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Building Project & SMA Contract (Law & Justice Center):** Sheri Jarvis, Information Coordinator, presented the Board with a progress report on the education plan for the Law and Justice Center/Courthouse expansion project. Karen Brown, GIS/IT, also present for this portion of the meeting, discussed plans for making information on this project available to the public on the Madison County website. Lewis Stahl moved to approve the letter from Schlenker & McKittrick Architects agreeing that there would be additional effort and compensation for assisting Madison County with a second bond election and that SMA will invoice Madison County for additional services. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Staff Meeting:** Those present for the staff meeting were Staci Beecher, Ralph Hamler, Vicki Tilstra, Lizz Babcock, Joanne Erdall, MaryAnn O'Malley, Karen Miller, Amy Donovan, Roger Staley, Frank Ford, Jill Steeley, Molly Peterson, Sheri Jarvis, Shelly Burke, Peggy Kaatz, Sam Korsmoe, Janie Alt, Karen Brown, and Margie Edsall.

- **Law and Justice Center:** Jim Hart stated that SMA will be coming to re-evaluate the space requirements of each office and asked that department heads review the space analysis report prepared by SMA to determine whether their needs have changed.
- **Resolution 10-2007:** Jim Hart read proposed Resolution 10-2007, a resolution relating to travel reimbursement while on County business. There was much discussion regarding whether it is appropriate to submit a claim in advance of travel for mileage, hotels, and meals. Karen Miller stated that it's not right to be required to use personal funds to travel on County business. Others present stated that they felt receipts should be submitted before meals are reimbursed. Laurie Buyan offered to send a copy of the Resolution to all department heads and elected officials and requested that they submit comments to the Commissioners.
- **Wellness Program:** Jill Steeley, Public Health Administrator, stated that she has contacted the MACo Personnel Director regarding the Wellness Program she is establishing for Madison County. She was told that public funds could not be used as incentives for this type of program. Jill will ask for donations from various entities and asked that anyone with funding suggestions please contact her.
- **Roger's Hours:** Jim Hart advised the group that Roger's work hours have changed for the summer and that he will now be working ten hours a day, three days a week, normally Monday through Wednesday.
- **Employee Concerns:** Frank Ford discussed the evacuation that occurred earlier in the day. Frank stated that Chris Mumme had asked him to point out that no one had pulled the emergency alarm. Shelly Burke, Treasurer, asked if money from the pop fund could be used for paper plates, napkins, and silverware for County potlucks. No one objected to this idea. Roger Staley stated that the pop machine is worn out and we need to start looking for a new one.

**Employee Concerns:** Staci Beecher, Planner 1, met with the Board to discuss employee concerns. This portion of the meeting was closed to the public.

**Solid Waste Equipment Purchase:** Ralph Hamler, Sanitarian, presented the Board with equipment bids for the Solid Waste Department. As recommended by the Solid Waste Board, Lewis Stahl moved to authorize the purchase of a 2008 – 389 Peterbuilt Semi, for the amount of \$108,151 from Northwest Peterbuilt of Missoula; a 2008 Great Lakes Trailer, Model SR2440, for the amount of \$24,450 from Olympic Sales in North Dakota; and a T-50 Palfinger Hook Lift, for the amount of \$26,979 from Signature Equipment of Salt Lake City. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Weed Department Grants:** Margie Edsall, Weed Coordinator, met with the Board to discuss grants for the noxious weed program. Margie stated that minor changes have been made to new grants which now include a conflict of interest clause. Lewis Stahl moved to approve the Noxious Weed Trust Fund Project Grant Agreement for the Madison Watershed Project Number MDA 2007-703, between the Montana Department of Agriculture and the Madison County Weed District, in the amount of \$71,030, with the understanding that a portion of these funds will be expended prior to the end of Fiscal Year 2006-2007 and will be reimbursed when revenues are received in Fiscal Year 2007-2008. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Lewis Stahl moved to approve the Noxious Weed Trust Fund Project Grant Agreement for the Norwegian/South Willow Creek Drainage Project Number MDA 2007-007, between the Montana Department of Agriculture and the Madison County Weed District, in the amount of \$26,890. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Lewis Stahl moved to approve the Noxious Weed Trust Fund Project Grant Agreement for the Vigilante Weed Management Project II Number MDA 2007-006, between the Montana Department of Agriculture and the Madison County Weed District, in the amount of \$15,161. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Emergency Resolution:** Lewis Stahl moved to adopt Resolution 11-2007, a resolution declaring a disaster in Madison County due to an earthquake. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Commissioner Schulz returned for the remainder of the meeting.

**Extension Update:** Cameron Clark, Madison and Jefferson County Extension Agent, updated the Board on the activities in his department and presented his preliminary budget.

**TSEP Update:** Dan McCauley, Great West Engineering, met with the Board to discuss the status of TSEP bridges replacements.

**Jack Creek Road Feasibility Study:** Jim Hart moved to approve Task Order #7 to the Agreement for Professional Services, dated August 22, 2005, between Madison County and Great West Engineering, for a Feasibility Study on Jack Creek Road for an amount not to exceed \$4,950. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Cemetery Board Resignations:** Jim Hart moved to accept the resignation of M.J. Lott from the Twin Bridges Cemetery Board and to advertise the vacancy. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Jim Hart moved to accept the resignation of Lewis Stahl from the Pioneer Cemetery Board and to advertise the vacancy. David Schulz seconded the motion. Jim Hart and David Schulz voted aye. Lewis Stahl abstained from voting. The motion carried on a majority vote.

**Board Member Application Form:** Jim Hart moved to approve the Madison County Application for Volunteer Boards and Advisory Committees form with the condition that a signature line is added. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Fair Board Position:** The Board will schedule interviews beginning at 3:00 p.m. on May 11, 2007, for the Assistant Fair Manager Position.

**Alder/Sheridan Road Crew Position:** The Board will schedule interviews beginning at 2:00 p.m. on May 17, 2007, for the Alder/Sheridan Road Crew Position.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

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David Schulz, Chairman  
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: May 15, 2007

Minutes prepared by:

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Laurie Buyan, Administrative Assistant

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Peggy Kaatz, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County